

REMARKS

Claims 8-20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-7 are canceled and claims 8-20 are added. No new matter is added by this Amendment. Support for new claims 8-20 is found in Figures 2A-3D.

In reply to the January 27, 2005 Election of Species Requirement, Applicant provisionally elects Species I, Figures 2A-3D, with traverse.

At least claim 8 is a generic claim. Claims 8-20 read on Species I, Figs. 2A-3D.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all species is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Election of Species Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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